

CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

Resolution Determining Alternatives for Study in the Draft Program EIR/EIS for a
Proposed California High Speed Train System and Alternatives
To be Eliminated from further Study in the Draft Program EIR/EIS

November 14, 2001

WHEREAS, the California High Speed Rail Authority has adopted a final Business Plan which describes a proposed high speed train system for California and describes general corridor alignments and general station locations, and has recommended that environmental review proceed for a proposed high speed train system for California;

WHEREAS, the California High Speed Rail Authority (the "Authority") has executed a Memorandum with the Federal Railroad Administration (the "FRA") which provides for the preparation of a Program EIR/EIS for a proposed California High Speed Train System;

WHEREAS, the Memorandum between the Authority and the FRA provides that the Authority will serve as the lead agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Federal Railroad Administration will serve as the lead agency for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in preparing the Program EIR/EIS;

WHEREAS, the Authority issued a Notice of Preparation in compliance with CEQA and the FRA issued a Notice of Intent in compliance with NEPA indicating that a Program EIR/EIS is being prepared for a proposed California High Speed Train System and requesting comment from the public and public agencies;

WHEREAS, the Authority with the participation of the FRA has conducted a series of scoping meetings to receive comments from public agencies and the public, and has consulted with numerous public agencies, to help identify issues of concern, potential environmental impacts, and potential alternatives for study in the draft Program EIR/EIS for the proposed California High Speed Train System;

WHEREAS, the Authority has caused screening evaluation studies to be prepared which summarize information concerning potential alternatives for study in the draft Program EIR/EIS in comparison to the screening evaluation criteria and the performance criteria previously set forth by the Authority for a proposed California High Speed Train System;

WHEREAS, the Authority has reviewed the screening evaluation studies, the staff recommendations developed in consideration of the screening evaluation studies, public and public agency comment in response to the NOP and NOI, and public and public agency comment on the Draft First Screening Report, Part 1, of November 6, 2001, and finds that they provide an appropriate basis for making initial screening decisions and determining appropriate alternatives to be studied in the draft Program EIR/EIS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE California High Speed Rail Authority hereby takes the following actions:

- (1) approves the recommended general corridors and station locations as alternatives to be studied in the draft Program EIR/EIS for the proposed California High Speed Train System, as presented in the First Screening Report, Part 1, November 6, 2001, as revised and presented at the November 14, 2001, public meeting of the Authority; and
- (2) concurs in the recommended elimination of certain alternatives from further consideration for reasons of (a) inability to meet most of the basic project objectives or to meet the need for and purposes of the project; (b) infeasibility due to economic, technical or engineering, or environmental concerns; (c) inability to avoid significant environmental impacts; or (d) a combination of these factors, as reflected in the First Screening Report, including Appendix A, as revised and presented at the November 14, 2001, public meeting of the Authority;
- (3) directs staff to proceed with the environmental review work for the proposed California High Speed Train System in accordance with the above screening decisions; and
- (4) directs staff to forward to the FRA for its consideration and concurrence the Authority's initial screening decisions as presented in this Resolution.

Adopted on November 14, 2001, by the Board of the
CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY.



Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director

* Not addressed in this resolution are the following: (a) recommendations for a segment connecting the Los Angeles Union Station/Southeast Los Angeles County to Los Angeles International Airport; (b) recommendations concerning the San Jose to Merced segment; (c) recommendations concerning the Bakersfield to Sylmar segment; and (d) the recommendations in the First Screening Report, Part 2, November 9, 2001, concerning the Sacramento to Bakersfield segment.

Adopted Unanimously on 11/14/01 in Bakersfield